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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Carson Files Official Complaint With Inspector General of EPA  
Letter Outlines Unethical And Improper Actions***

Washington, D.C. --

Today, Eastern Oklahoma Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK), along with Congressman John Dingell (D-MI), ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, filed an official complaint with the Inspector General's office of the Environmental Protection Agency for what the letter describes as "serious concerns that improper and unethical actions led to unwarranted revisions of the Feasibility Report" on the Tar Creek Superfund site.

The letter to Inspector General Nikki Tinsley was filed after Congressman Carson became aware of inconsistencies between a draft copy and a second released version of the Technical Feasibility Of Tar Creek Wetlands Concept Plan. The report was released in the names of scientists who had never been consulted on material changes to their work.

The letter states, "The manner in which this report process has proceeded raises serious questions." It goes on to ask the Inspector General to, "investigate the process under which this report was developed, specifically the timetable of the report, who made the changes from August 2002 to the April 2003 report, when were they made and under whose authority."

The letter also addresses potential impropriety on behalf of the Department of Interior since they are a Potentially Responsible Party to the Superfund site. It asks the EPA Inspector General to, "encourage your office, perhaps in conjunction with that (Department of Interior) Department's Inspector General, to examine potential questions related to their involvement in the process."

"This is the first official step in seeking an answer by the EPA's regulatory office on what exactly happened during the white-washing of the Tar Creek report," said Congressman Carson. "The people of Picher and Cardin deserve an answer as to what happened and why Washington bureaucrats felt the need to edit a comprehensive report

in the name of the experts and scientists. It is my hope that this will shed some light on a process that has been left in the dark for too long. We will vigorously pursue an answer to these questions outlined in our request and make sure that the truth sees the light of day.”

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